

**Lanesboro City Council Meeting**  
**Monday, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009**  
**Council Chambers @ 5:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Rahn, Allen, O'Connor & Jeannette

**Absent:** Dybing

**Visitors:** John Pieper, Patrick Danz, Terry Neuman, Ross Trautershaude, Coranda Vickerman, Jan Meyer, Chief of Police – Matt Schultz, Street Superintendent – Andy Drake, Brian Luna (Chamber) and Jade Wangen

**REGULAR MEETING:**

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Rahn. Additions or changes to the agenda included John Pieper regarding Segways, Vickerman regarding “Spud Boy” Diner clarifications and Audit approval. The agenda, with changes, was approved with a motion by O'Connor, second by Allen, motion carried.

The minutes of the May 18<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting were approved as printed with a motion by Allen, second O'Connor, motion carried. The Council at this time went outside to take the street tour, however due to lack of transportation resumed the meeting inside until it arrived.

**PERSONS WITH BUSINESS BEFORE THE COUNCIL:**

**John Pieper – Segway Questions and Concerns:** Pieper noted that he and the Chamber have had complaints about the Segways in town and on the trail. Pieper noted that the Chamber has contacted Craig Blomer from the DNR to clarify the law in relation to the bike trail. Pieper asked that the Council and Police staff enforce laws regarding them. Chief Schultz stated that they can operate on a street as long as they are on a street that is less than 35 miles per hour, which all streets in Lanesboro are and also that they are allowed on sidewalks and the bike trail. However, he did state that the segways must yield to bicycles, and pedestrians. Chief Schultz also noted that the Council, due to how the statute was written, is not allowed to put stricter regulations on them. Chief Schultz noted that the police department will enforce the regulations based upon the statute.

**STREET TOUR WITH ANDY DRAKE:**

At this time the City Council, and others that wished to take a “Tour of the City” went on the mini-bus provided Joan Ruen. Andy Drake showed the Council the condition of various streets explaining the rough shape that most are in and how much it could cost to repair/replace them. It was noted that the next project is not slated until 2013, however many roads are going to need replacement and they are not even scheduled until well beyond 2013. Drake showed the Council the projects that were started in 2008 to be completed in 2009 and noted that the City is going to have to figure out how to go about road replacement in the future. The Council then returned to the Chambers where they resumed the meeting.

**Eric Bunge – Open Lots at 104 and 106 Parkway Avenue North:** Eric Bunge spoke on behalf of the project noting that he would like to use the space as an “Open Air Market” stating he would like to divide out the property into eighteen 10'x13' spaces for a market. The plan that Bunge presented consists of planter boxes on the sidewalk side with areas for entering and exiting the space. On the alley side the plan lays out a privacy fence and an area for loading and unloading. Bunge also noted that some of the spaces could be combined for a larger space depending on the event. Bunge noted that they would like to have themed weekends such as a “Taste of Lanesboro” event or antique toy tractor sales, and other events similar. Bunge noted that he had spoke with Attorney Tom Manion and a conditional use permit would be required. Vickerman noted that in requesting a conditional use permit a public hearing had to be scheduled along with an opinion from planning and zoning. Bunge noted that he tried to attend a planning and zoning meeting but the schedule was wrong on the calendar. Vickerman noted that since two Council members could not attend the regular scheduled Council meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup>, that a Council meeting could be rescheduled for June 22<sup>nd</sup> and within that time the notices could be sent out for a public hearing. Vickerman also noted that the Planning and Zoning could also meet prior to that time with a recommendation. Bunge noted that he wants to beautify the space and at this time it is not feasible for them to construct a building, due to costs and economic times. O'Connor made a motion to call a public hearing for a conditional use permit that has been requested by Eric Bunge for the properties located at 104 and 106 Parkway Avenue North for an “Open Air Market”, second Allen, motion carried.

**Citizen Comments: Terry Neuman (Mrs. B's) – Noise Issue**

Rahn asked if any other visitor would like to discuss anything for “citizens comments” before they continued with the meeting. Terry Neuman from Mrs. B's noted that there is definitely a noise issue in Lanesboro with music in cars, motorcycles and the amount of activity going on over in the bass pond parking lot with cars doing donuts and gathering there. Vickerman noted that the police have been pulling over high school students with large pipes and have given numerous tickets, but that she would ask Chief Schultz and the department to be aware of the noise in the community.

**COMMITTEE MEETINGS:**

**Public Utilities – May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2009 – O’Connor:** The Public Utilities had a special meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss the Dairyland “true up” costs that would be passed to the municipal utilities. These costs were a result of some of Dairyland’s plants going down over different times. Currently, the true up projections are around 16%, this cost would have to be passed on to the consumer. The other issue that was discussed was sewer rates based upon the most recent audit results, and those rates were also discussed. The Public Utilities called for a public hearing for July 6<sup>th</sup> and have asked the Council to be a part of the public hearing along with a joint meeting. Rahn made a motion to have a public hearing and joint meeting with the Lanesboro Public Utilities on July 6<sup>th</sup>, second Jeannette, motion carried.

**Park – May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2009 - Rahn:** Rahn stated that the Park group discussed the tree ordinance and had three areas of suggestion for the Council to look at. Rahn noted that the Park group also approved the three TMI groups tree planting. The Park Board decided to remove the wood playground structures and seek out grants for replacement equipment. It was noted that no one has applied for the open position. Reservations for the campgrounds were discussed and renting of the log cabin was discussed, however neither was passed. The Park Board will be replacing the tennis court nets and replacing the wood chips. Rahn noted that Vickerman discussed rental fees from the school and summer rec costs with Superintendent Boggs noting that every other year the rental fee will increase 2-3%.

**EDA had a lack of quorum.**

#### **HOUSEKEEPING:**

**Tree Ordinance:** Discussion occurred over the height of trees on the boulevard and those near sidewalks. Allen also noted that she had various questions that she would like to have time to review. The tree ordinance will be discussed at a future meeting.

**Gazebo by Riverside Trail:** Vickerman noted Julia Borgen had requested a gazebo at the Riverside Trail. Questions arose as to the size, maintenance and whether it could be flooded. An audience member also asked who would be paying for the gazebo. Vickerman noted that she was unaware of the size, maintenance and flooding issues but would check with Borgen, Vickerman did respond that the gazebo was a donation and any other items in that area have been donated or paid for with donations from the sale of the bricks.

#### **Temporary Liquor License for Buffalo Bill Days by Fire Department and Street Dance**

**approval:** Jeannette made a motion to approve the street dance and temporary liquor permit for the fire department for Buffalo Bill Days, second O’Connor, motion carried.

**Fireworks Contract:** Vickerman stated that the Buffalo Bill Days committee is asking the Council to sign a 3 year contract and pay ahead for the fireworks, which would result in additional fireworks. It was noted by Meyer in the audience that the 3 years did not have to be consecutive and did not even have to be strictly for Buffalo Bill Days. Jeannette made motion to approve the contract for three years and to pay ahead for the additional fireworks, second Allen, motion carried.

**Revolving Loan EDA Recommendation:** Vickerman stated that due to the lack of quorum this item would have to be moved to the next agenda.

**Fire Department 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Open House:** Vickerman reminded Council and the public about the open house on June 13<sup>th</sup> from 11am – 3pm in honor of the fire department 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**Rhubarb Festival:** Rahn noted that this coming Saturday was the Rhubarb Festival from 10am – 2pm.

**“Spud Boy” Diner Clarification** – Vickerman had received questions or comments lately from the public asking about the diner. Vickerman stated that a building permit was given to the property for the diner and the restroom behind the diner. Vickerman stated that she was unaware as to whether the additional building was on that permit or not, but did not believe that it was. Vickerman clarified that the cement slab and the connection to water and sewer does indeed classify the diner as a “permanent structure” and that as far as planning and zoning the property qualifies for all of the regulations. Vickerman stated that she would inquire as to whether the additional building was in the original building permit and follow up with the owner. Another concern was raised about the cement being slanted towards the building that housed Crown Trout Jewelers. Vickerman stated that the issue was a property owner to property owner issue and that would have to be worked out between them. Vickerman stated with no side setback in the downtown commercial the property owner has the ability to put the cement slab next to the building, however if the adjacent property owner states that he has changed the flow of water into their building that they would need to contact him or an attorney about the situation. Vickerman also noted that the Diner would have to have approval from the state Department of Health prior to running the restaurant.

#### **ADJOURN:**

O’Connor moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m., second by Jeannette, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbie Vickerman  
City Administrator / Clerk

